SURVIVAL

Danger 14

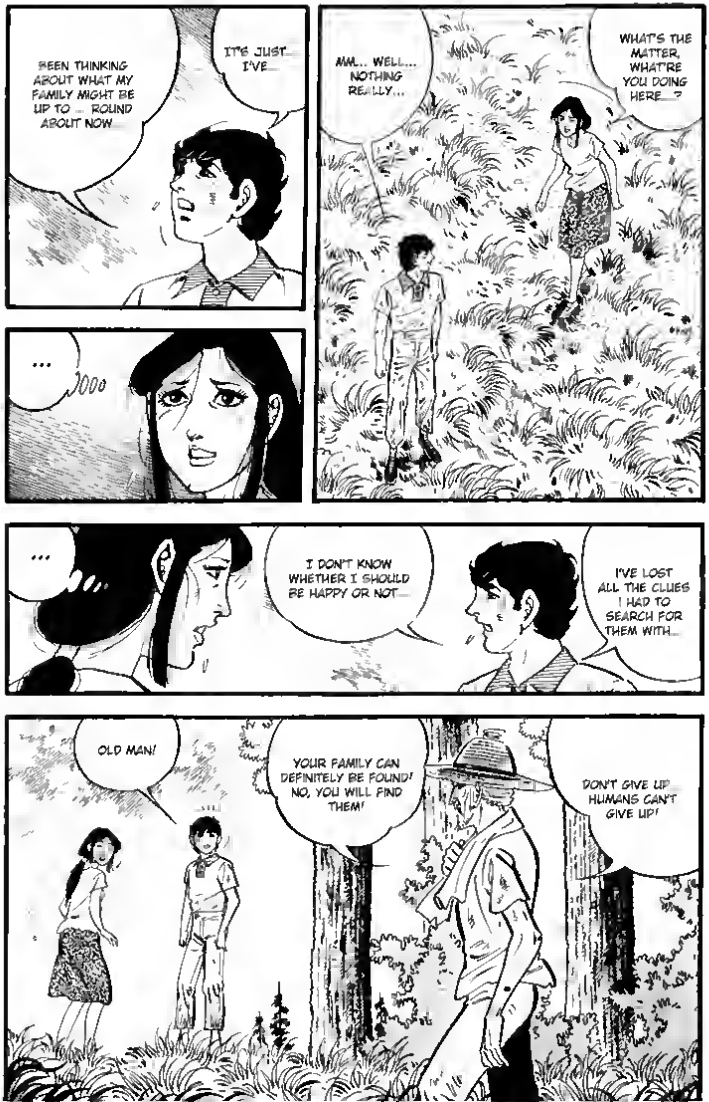
...
OH YEAH... I'VE NOT SEEN HIM SINCE MORNING...
RECENTLY HE'S... SEEMED A BIT DOWN...

WHERE'S SATORU-SAN...?

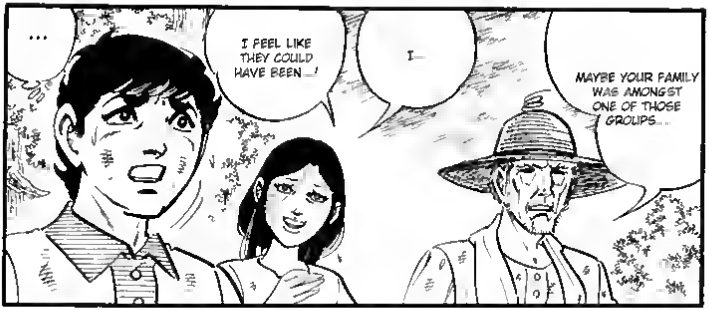
...

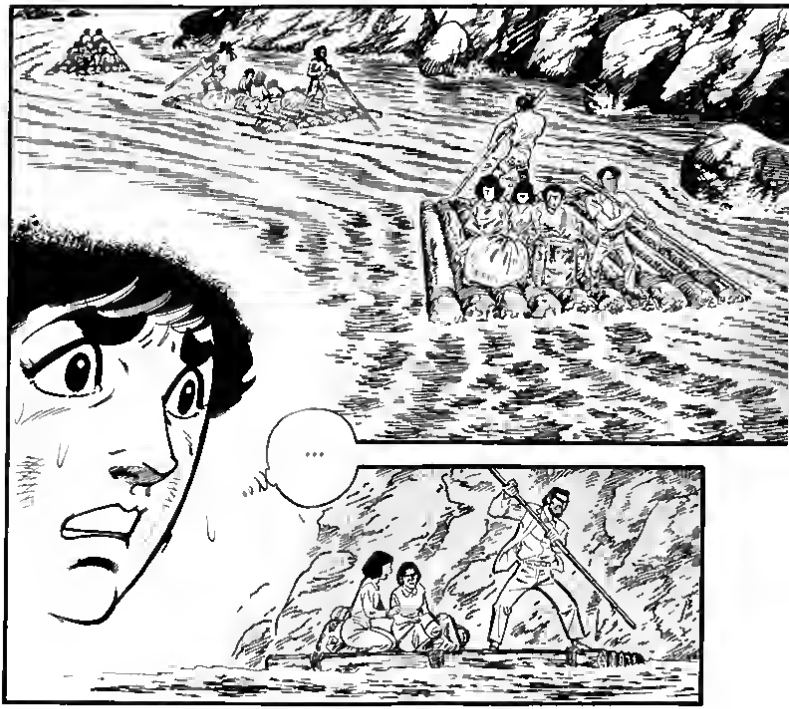
WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT HIM...

SATSUKI-SAN!
!
SATORU-SAN...

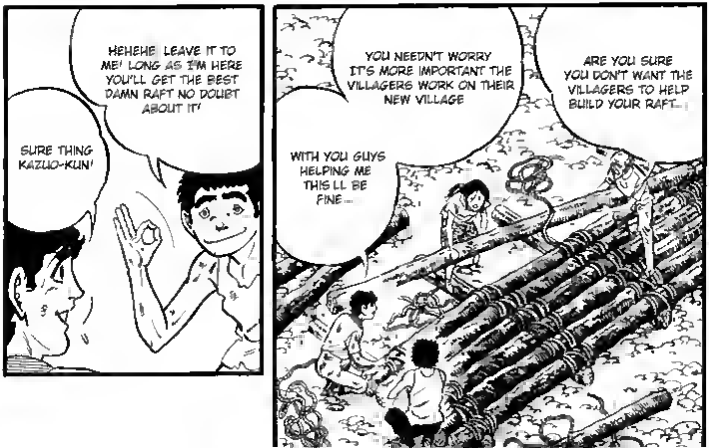

BEEN THINKING ABOUT WHAT MY FAMILY MIGHT BE UP TO — ROUND ABOUT NOW...
IT'S JUST... I'VE...
...
AM... WELL... NOTHING REALLY...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE...?
...
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER I SHOULD BE HAPPY OR NOT...
I'VE LOST ALL THE CLUES I HAD TO SEARCH FOR THEM WITH...
OLD MAN!
YOUR FAMILY CAN DEFINITELY BE FOUND! NO, YOU WILL FIND THEM!
DON'T GIVE UP... HUMANS CAN'T GIVE UP!

...
I'M SURE YOU CAN FIND YOUR FAMILY SATORU!
THAT'S RIGHT!
IF IT'S YOU I'M SURE YOU COULD DO IT!
WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO HELPED REVITALISE THE DESPIRITED VILLAGERS LIKE THAT?!
EH?!
SAW A NUMBER OF FAMILIES PASS BY
SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE YOU CAME TO THE VILLAGE I
THEY WERE GOING DOWN THE RIVER ON RAFTS...
THEY'D SPLIT UP INTO FOUR, FIVE GROUPS...
WHO KNOWS MAYBE IT WAS A REVELATION FROM GOD THAT YOU SHOULD LOOK DOWNRIVER FOR YOUR FAMILY...!
...

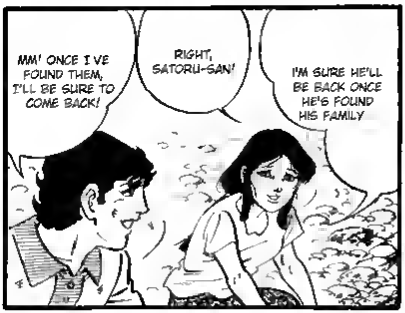

...
I FEEL LIKE THEY COULD HAVE BEEN...!
I...
MAYBE YOUR FAMILY WAS AMONGST ONE OF THOSE GROUPS...


...

ALRIGHT LET'S DO THIS!
MM...!
I'LL GO DOWN THE RIVER TOO!
I'LL GO THEN!
...

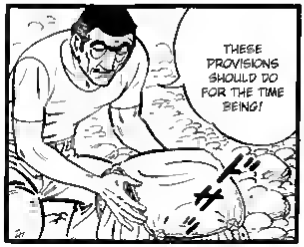

HEHEHE LEAVE IT TO ME! LONG AS I'M HERE YOU'LL GET THE BEST DAMN RAFT NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!
SURE THING KAZUO-KUN!
YOU NEEDN'T WORRY IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THE VILLAGERS WORK ON THEIR NEW VILLAGE
ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT THE VILLAGERS TO HELP BUILD YOUR RAFT...
WITH YOU GUYS HELPING ME THIS'LL BE FINE—

I'LL SHOW YOU GRANDPA, I'LL PUT ALL MY EFFORT INTO IT!
WH... WHAT WAS THAT?!
WE'LL HAVE TO TRY AND PREVENT THAT EH...
FUFUFUFU. WITH YOU HELPING OUT KAZUO IT'D END UP SINKING MID TRIP.


MM! ONCE I'VE FOUND THEM, I'LL BE SURE TO COME BACK!
RIGHT, SATORU-SAN!
I'M SURE HE'LL BE BACK ONCE HE'S FOUND HIS FAMILY

...
STILL... IT'LL BE LONELY... WITH YOU GONE SATORU...

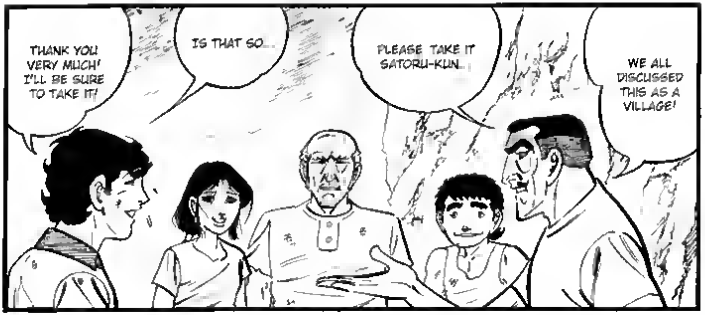
MM, IT'S A PROMISE!
YOU'LL REALLY COME BACK SATORU!?!
FOR REAL?!


THESE PROVISIONS SHOULD DO FOR THE TIME BEING!

!

DON'T WORRY... THIS WASN'T SOMETHING I CAME UP WITH ON MY OWN...
F-FATHER...!

OOH! IT'S NEARLY DONE THEN!


THANK YOU! VERY MUCH! I'LL BE SURE TO TAKE IT!
IS THAT SO...
PLEASE TAKE IT SATORU-KUN...
WE ALL DISCUSSED THIS AS A VILLAGE!

...

TIME TO WORK TIME TO WORK!
IF WE KEEP SLACKING OFF IT'LL BE NIGHT SOON!

EARLY THE NEXT MORNING THE BOY MADE HIS BITTERSWEET FAREWELLS TO KAZLO, SATUSKI AND THE VILLAGERS WHO HAD COME TO SEE HIM OFF ON HIS RAFT.

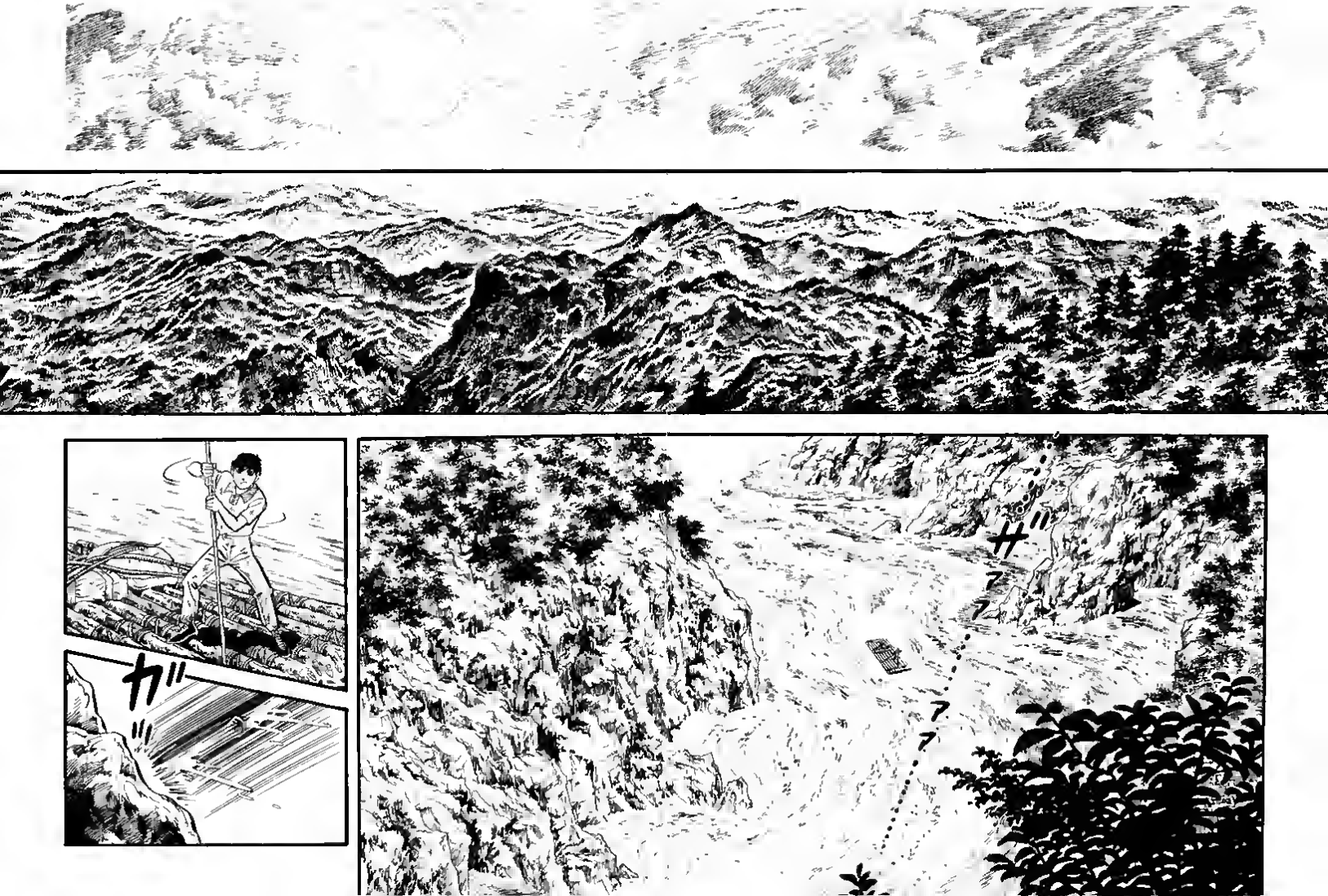
TAKE CAAAARE!
THANK YOU EVERYONE!
AND TAKE CARE YOURSEEELF, SATORUUU!
WATCH OUT NOOOW!
YOU'RE WELCOME BACK ANYTIME, SATORUUU!
IF YOU GET IN TROUBLE YOU'RE WELCOME BACK ANYTIME!
GOODBYE!
GOODBYYYE!
THANK YOUUUU!

FAAAAREWEEEELL!

WE'LL BUILD IT! WE'LL ALL BUILD A FANTASTIC VILLAGE!
MM...!
LET'S WORK ON A VILLAGE TO REALLY SURPRISE HIM WHEN HE NEXT COMES
WE HAVE TO KEEP ON AT IT NOW NEVER FORGETTING THE COURAGE TO SURVIVE THAT SATORU-KUN GAVE US

SATORU-SAN...
FARE-WELL

WE WON'T LOSE TO YOU, SATORU!
LIKE WE'D LOSE!



...
SOOOOO
I DON'T LIKE HOW FAST THE CURRENT'S GOING...

MOUNTAIN STREAMS HAVE SPOTS KNOWN AS "LOWER DEPTHS". HERE MINIATURE RAPIDS SOME 30CM TO A METRE IN HEIGHT WILL FORM, MAKING DOWNRIVER PROGRESS DIFFICULT